

REMARKS

Summary of the Office Action

Claims 1-20 are considered in the Office action.

Claims 1-20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Terasaka U.S. Patent No. 6,236,462 ("Terasaka").

Reply to § 102(e) Rejections

Applicant has cancelled claims 14-20 without prejudice, and respectfully traverses the rejections of claims 1-13.

Amended independent claim 1 recites a process including establishing a printer driver preference set at a first client computer for sending a first print job to an output device, sending the set from the first client computer to a second client computer, and using the set at the second client computer to send a second print job to the output device. Amended independent claim 6 recites a process including establishing a printer driver preference set at a first computer for sending a first print job to a first output device having a first feature set, sending the printer driver preference set from the first client computer to a second client computer, and using the printer driver preference set at the second client computer to send a second print job to a second output device having a second feature set. Terasaka does not describe or suggest the claimed invention.

Instead, Terasaka describes a computer system that includes host computer 1 that may print data either to dedicated printer 2, or printer 7 via terminal equipment 4. In particular, host computer 1 is coupled to dedicated printer 2, which includes analyzing section 3a and printing section 3b. (Col. 1, lines 14-16; Col. 1, lines 20-22; FIG. 9). Analyzing section 3a analyzes form data transferred from host computer 1, creates print data representing the material to be printed, and passes the created print data to printing section 3b for printing. (Col. 1, lines 22-28).

Host computer 1 also is coupled to printer 7 via terminal equipment 4. (Col. 1, line 66 through Col. 2, line 4; Col. 3, lines 19-26; FIG. 9). Terminal equipment 4 includes a host terminal printer emulator 5 and printer driver 6. (Col. 4, line 66 through Col. 5, line 5; FIGS. 4 and 9). Host terminal printer emulator 5 is a

device that replaces the functions of dedicated printer 2 with software that enables digital data from host computer 1 to be printed by printer 7. (Col. 1, lines 29-37). In particular, host terminal printer emulator 5 receives form data sent from host computer 1, creates print data, and passes the print data to printer driver 6. (Col. 1, lines 38-41). Printer driver 6 converts the print data to a form that printer 7 can understand, and passes the converted print data to printer 7. (Col. 1, lines 41-44).

Host computer 1 includes a WYSIWYG system 10, which includes print request processing and print setting storing section 11. (Col. 3, lines 60-61; Col. 3, lines 66-67; FIG. 3). To perform printing on printer 7, WYSIWYG system 10 sends a printer driver information inquiry to host terminal printer emulator 5. (Col. 7, lines 5-15; FIG. 6). Upon receiving the inquiry, host terminal printer emulator 5 returns the printer driver information. (Col. 7, lines 15-17; FIG. 6). If the returned printer driver information does not match form data for printing, WYSIWYG system 10 sends a change request and selected printer settings to host terminal printer emulator 5. (Col. 7, lines 18-26; FIG. 6). In turn, host terminal printer emulator 5 changes the print settings of the printer driver it is using. (Col. 7, lines 27-30). Finally, WYSIWYG system 10 sends a print request and form data to host terminal printer emulator 5, which then performs printing on printer 7. (Col. 7, lines 31-35; FIG. 6).

Unlike amended claim 1, however, Terasaka does not describe or suggest establishing a printer driver preference set at a first client computer for sending a first print job to an output device, sending the set from the first client computer to a second client computer, and using the set at the second client computer to send a second print job to the output device. The Office action states that Terasaka describes terminal equipment 4 using a printer driver preference set to send a second print job to dedicated printer 2. However, Terasaka nowhere describes or suggests that terminal equipment 4 may send print jobs to any printer other than printer 7, and never describes or suggests that terminal equipment 4 may send print jobs to dedicated printer 2. On the contrary, Terasaka suggests otherwise by stating that printer 2 is "hardware dedicated to . . . host [1]." (Col. 1, line 34).


Further, unlike amended claim 6, Terasaka does not describe or suggest establishing a printer driver preference set at a first computer for sending a first print job to a first output device having a first feature set, sending the printer driver preference set

from the first client computer to a second client computer, and using the printer driver preference set at the second client computer to send a second print job to a second output device having a second feature set. Terasaka does not describe or suggest establishing a printer driver preference set at host computer 1 for sending a first print job to dedicated printer 2, sending the printer driver preference set from host computer 1 to terminal equipment 4, and using the printer driver preference set at terminal equipment 4 to send a second print job to printer 7. Indeed, Terasaka nowhere describes anything regarding using a printer driver preference set related to dedicated printer 2 in connection with printing on printer 7.

Because Terasaka does not describe or suggest the invention recited in independent claims 1 and 6, applicant respectfully requests that the §102(e) rejections of these claims be withdrawn. Because claims 2-5 and 7-13 variously depend from these claims, applicant respectfully requests that the §102(e) rejections of claims 2-5 and 7-13 also be withdrawn

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,


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